

NATIONAL URBAN POLICY PROGRAMME IN I.R.IRAN

NUP is a coherent set of decisions through a deliberate government-led process of coordinating and rallying various actors towards a common vision and goal that will promote more transformative, productive, inclusive and resilient urban development for the long term (UN-Habitat, 2014).

The pilot phase of the National Urban Policy Programme (NUPP): "Developing NUP and Smart City Strategies in Iran" started in 2017 in collaboration between UN-Habitat and Republic of Korea. In the first step, the "Diagnosis Report" was prepared by the selected consultant and launched in December 2018. In the next step of NUPP, as part of the joint programme of the UN-Habitat and the Ministry of Roads and Urban Development and other partners and stakeholders, "the National Urban Policy and Smart City Strategy Document" was prepared and delivered in March 2022.



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**NATIONAL URBAN POLICY
PROGRAMME IN I.R.IRAN**
<https://urbanpolicyplatform.org>

NUP DEFINITION AND FRAMEWORK

The current rate of urbanisation will see 5.17 billion people living in urban areas across the world by 2030 – up from 4.22 billion in 2018. Urbanisation has many features that can be leveraged to improve the livelihoods of all citizens. The National Urban Policy (NUP) is an important tool for governments that seek to manage and direct rapid urbanisation, and to tap into urbanisation’s positive effects while accommodating its inevitable stresses.

“ NUP is a coherent set of decisions through a deliberate government-led process of coordinating and rallying various actors towards a common vision and goal that will promote more transformative, productive, inclusive and resilient urban development for the long-term. (UN-Habitat, 2014)

Urban planning in Iran has more than 50 years of experience. Iran's urbanisation process presents both opportunities and challenges. In this regard, adopting NUP can help establishing a framework for the overall process of urbanisation of the country. NUP offers a platform to foster synergy, coherence, capacity development and mutual learning and exchange globally on National Urban Policy.

NUP in I.R. Iran also promotes consolidating and sharing knowledge on urban policy at the global level. It is a tool for implementation and monitoring of global urban agendas, such as the New Urban Agenda, Paris Agreement, and the Sendai Framework.

The pilot phase of the National Urban Policy Programme (NUPP): “Developing NUP and Smart City Strategies in Iran” started in 2017 in collaboration between UN-Habitat and Republic of Korea. In the first step, the “Diagnosis Report” was prepared and launched in December 2018.

In the next step of NUPP, by receiving the approval of the Project Document and preparation of the Inception Report, preparation of the National Urban Policy and Smart City Strategy Document was pursued as part of the joint programme of the UN-Habitat and the Urban Planning and Architecture Directorate of the Ministry of Roads and Urban Development (MoRUD) and other partners and stakeholders, and ultimately, the first draft of the “National Urban Policy and Smart City Strategy Document” was delivered in March 2022.

THE MAIN ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE PILOT PHASE OF THE NATIONAL URBAN POLICY PROGRAMME IN IRAN INCLUDES:

1

ENHANCED CAPACITY OF SUB-NATIONAL AND NATIONAL GOVERNMENT TO DEVELOP, IMPLEMENT, AND MONITOR AND EVALUATE NATIONAL URBAN POLICY (NUP AND SUP) AND DEVELOP SMART CITY STRATEGIES.

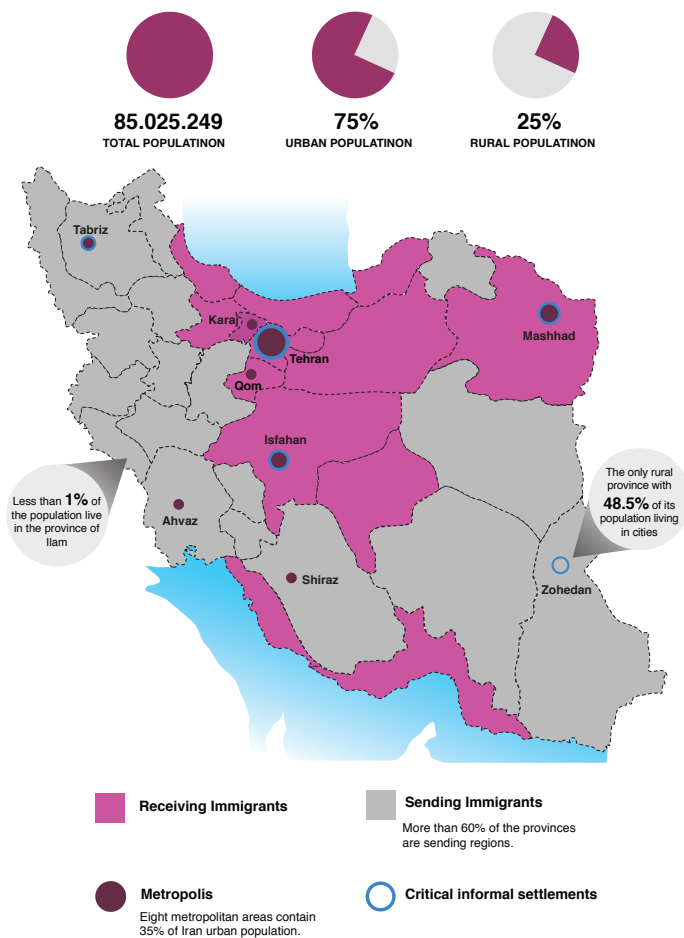
2

INCREASED CENTRALIZATION OF KNOWLEDGE AND TOOLS ON THE DEVELOPMENT, IMPLEMENTATION, AND MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF URBAN POLICY (NUP AND SUP) AND SMART CITY STRATEGIES.

3

AUGMENTED OPPORTUNITY FOR KNOWLEDGE SHARING AND PEER LEARNING ACTIVITIES ON URBAN POLICY (NUP AND SUP) AND SMART CITY STRATEGIES.

IRAN URBAN PROFILE



Growing population: The population of Iran is about 85 million people, with the largest share of population (16.6%) living in the province of Tehran and the smallest share (less than 1%) in the province of Ilam.

Polarized urbanization: Iran has gone through very rapid urbanization in the last few decades (74.1% of the total population live in urban areas by 2016). Urban distribution is not balanced nationwide; in provinces such as Qom and Tehran, more than 90 per cent of the population live in the cities, while this proportion is less than 50 per cent in the province of Sistan and Baluchestan.

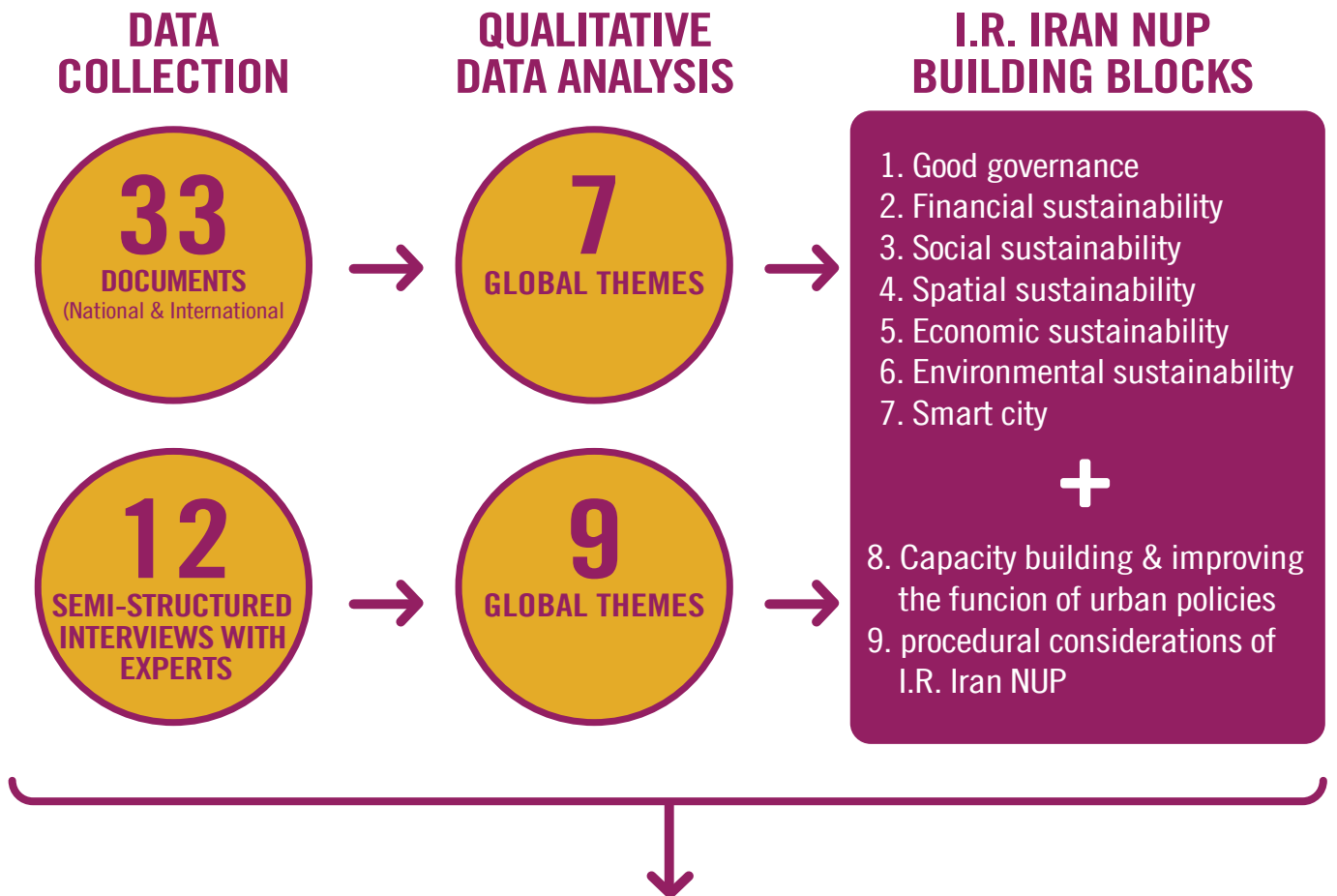
Aging population: Due to the decline in fertility, the aging index of the country shows a relatively rapid increase since 1996, and the middle age group will dominate Iran's population in the future.

Increased internal migration: The level of development of origin is the main factor in population migration, and therefore, in provinces with higher levels of development, urbanization and immigration rates are higher (61 per cent of the provinces of the country are sending migrants)

Increased literacy and level of education: The literacy rate and the share of population with university education in recent years have been increasing.

NUP FORMULATION PROCESS IN I.R. IRAN

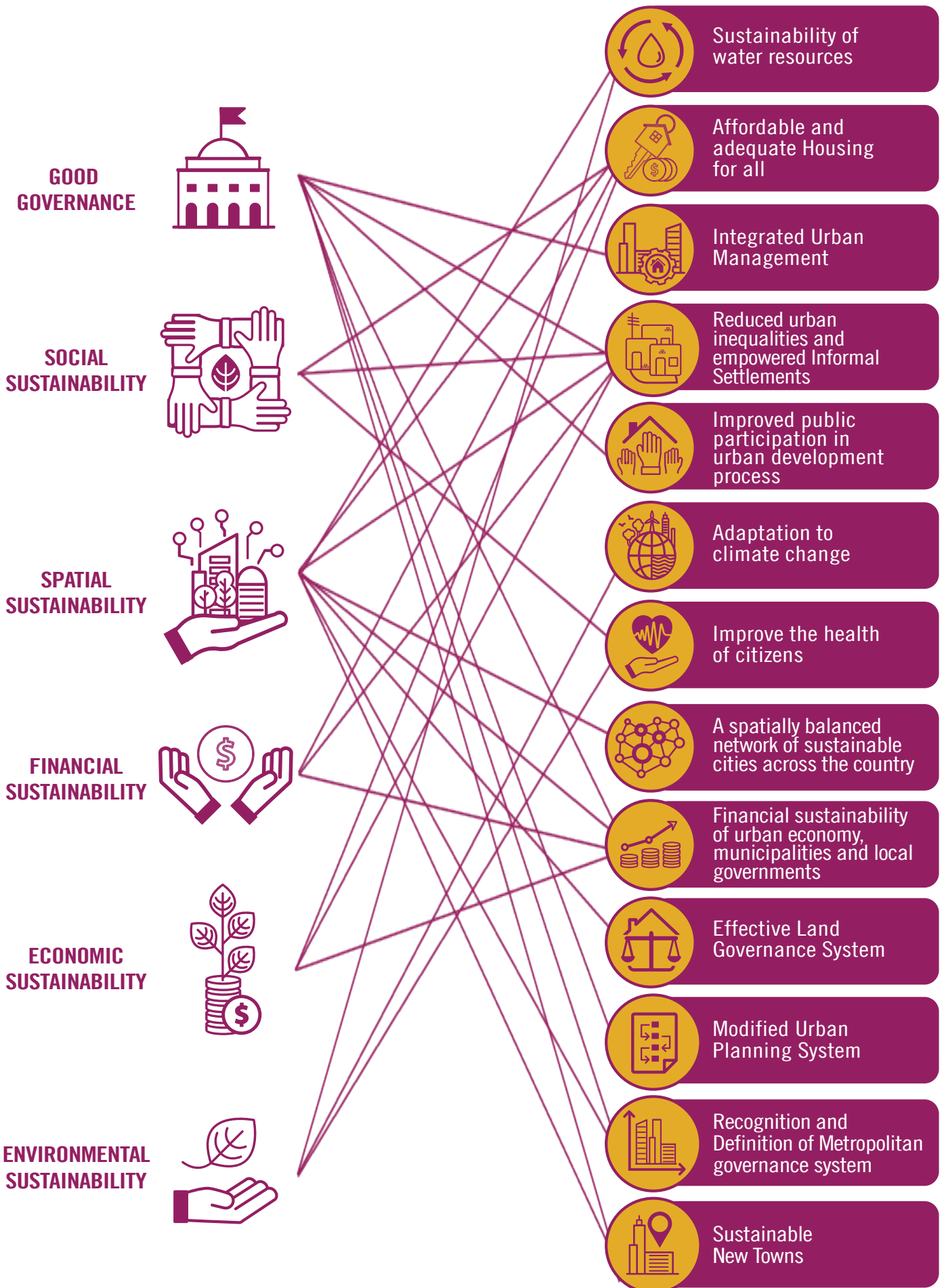




- ORGANIZING THE SYSTEM OF CITIES IN THE COUNTRY AND PLANNING FOR A BALANCED NETWORK OF CITIES
- REFORMING THE HIERARCHICAL SYSTEM OF URBAN PROGRAMS AND PLANS
- PROMOTING INTEGRATED APPROACH IN URBAN MANAGEMENT
- IDENTIFYING THE SUSTAINABLE REVENUE SOURCES FOR MUNICIPALITIES
- PROVIDING ADEQUATE HOUSING FOR ALL CITIZENS
- UPDATING THE LAWS AND REGULATIONS OF LAND MANAGEMENT AND LAND TENURE
- DEFINING THE ROLE AND FUNCTION OF NEW TOWNS IN THE SYSTEM OF IRANIAN CITIES
- DEFINING THE METROPOLITAN SCALE IN THE URBAN GOVERNANCE SYSTEM OF IRAN
- REDUCING URBAN POVERTY AND REGIONAL INEQUALITIES AND ORGANIZING THE INFORMAL SETTLEMENTS
- PREPARING CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION PLANS
- PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT BASED ON THE LONG-TERM PLANNING APPROACH
- IMPROVING THE HEALTH OF ALL CITIZENS
- IMPROVING PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN URBAN POLICY MAKING

NUP BUILDING BLOCKS

NUP GOALS





PROBLEM

Necessity to achieve institutional cohesion and integrated urban management

POLICY GOAL

Integrated Urban Management

POLICY OBJECTIVES

- 011: Enabling effective legal and regulatory frameworks in urban management
- 012: Enabling effective institutional frameworks in various levels of urban management (community to regional levels)



NUP1 TRANSITION TO A COHERENT AND INTEGRATED URBAN GOVERNANCE SYSTEM

SP101: Legal reform and deregulation to achieve coherence in urban management legal frameworks

SP102: Promoting the decentralization measures by the central government

SP103: Enabling neighbourhood councils to respond effectively to community concerns

Sp104: Improving city council performance in accordance with the city council law

SP105: Improving the effectiveness of the inter-sectoral committees

SP106: Designing various models of urban management in accordance with municipal capacities and size of the cities

SP107: Separating political leadership from specialized management of municipalities, and avoiding non-specialist and discriminatory selection in recruitment

SP108: Developing legal and regulatory frameworks with regard to metropolitan governance (specific institutional and administrative arrangements that function beyond the city boundaries)

SP109: Separation of public duties and responsibilities into national and local departments and assigning local duties to local institutions

SP110: Promoting the mechanisms of transparency and accountability of local and regional governments and fighting against the corruption and information rent in urban management system

SP111: Defining effective systems to monitor and evaluate the implementation of approved plans and programs

POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

POLICY INSTRUMENTS

- Training of public managers
- Enactment of new rules
- Informal procedures
- Capacity building

POLICY ACTORS

CORRESPONDING ACTOR:

- Ministry of Interior

INFLUENT ACTOR(S):

- Municipalities
- Supreme Administrative Council

POLICY EVALUATION

POLICY OUTPUTS:

- Number of tasks assigned by the central government to municipalities
- Number of citizens' complaints from municipalities and city councils

POLICY IMPACTS:

- Level of citizens' satisfaction with the performance of municipalities
- Level of transformation of actors' decisions into operational action

SMART CITY CONSIDERATIONS

- The need to create an inter-sectoral coordination unit for Smart City development
- The necessity for adoption of a transparent and open data-oriented governance

TIME SCALE: Mid-term

DURATION: 3-5 Years

SCALE: National

LEVEL: Governance/Managerial



PROBLEM

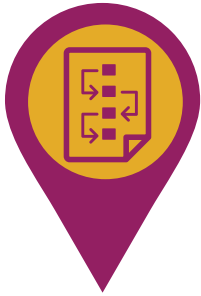
Large number of urban plans and programs without logical connection among them

POLICY GOAL

Modified Urban Planning System

POLICY OBJECTIVES

- 021: Development of an updated reference framework for urban planning system in the country
- 022: Improved position of urban planners in occupational, legal, and regulatory aspects in the urban development system



NUP2 DEVELOPING AN INTEGRATED FRAMEWORK FOR THE URBAN PLANNING SYSTEM IN IRAN

- SUP201:** Ensuring the multi-level (vertical) and cross-sectoral (horizontal) coordination and cooperation of various influential forces in urban planning process.
- SUP202:** Updating the terms of reference for project services to include the emerging urban concepts and issues.
- SUP203:** Clarifying the authority and duties of the institutions involved in urban planning and policymaking (at all stages from preparation to communication)
- SUP204:** Enabling effective and efficient institutional frameworks by Identifying gaps, overlaps, parallel work and conflict of interests of authoritative institutions in the current urban planning system
- SUP205:** Enhancing the agility and adaptability of urban planning practitioners in the application of emerging theories and principles developed by the scientific and academic community
- SUP206:** Strengthening collaboration and Investing in human talent and skills to ensure sustainable urban development
- SUP207:** Creating new mechanisms and strengthening the existing mechanisms that include public participation components to facilitate more systematic cooperation and coordination between officials.
- SUP208:** Preparation and implementation of a deconcentration plan for Tehran city-region within the framework of national measures for sustainable urban and regional development of the country

POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

POLICY INSTRUMENTS

- Deregulation of actors
- Training of public managers
- Enactment of new rules
- Informal procedures
- Capacity building

POLICY ACTORS

CORRESPONDING ACTOR

- MoRUD

INFLUENT ACTOR(S)

- Ministry of Interior
- Municipalities
- Islamic Consultative Assembly
- Private sector
- Professional body

POLICY EVALUATION

POLICY OUTPUTS:

- Level of employment opportunities for urban planners in the public and private sectors
- Metropolises with independent urban policy and planning authority

POLICY IMPACTS:

- Level of citizen's satisfaction
- The level of compliance of urban development plans with relevant to global elated agendas and conventions
- Feasibility of urban plans

SMART CITY CONSIDERATIONS

- The need for incorporating smart city development approach in Iran's planning system and procedures, such as developing and using digital twin for cities

TIME SCALE: Long-term

DURATION: 5-10 Years

SCALE: Local/National

LEVEL: Governance/Managerial



PROBLEM

Low citizen participation in local planning processes

POLICY GOAL

Improved public participation in urban development process

POLICY OBJECTIVES

O31: Facilitating and diversifying the means of public participation

O32: Enhancing the spirit of demanding within the community and the mutual trust between citizens and local government

O33: Open access to the cities' development plans and programs



NUP3 ENHANCING PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT DIFFERENT LEVELS OF GOVERNANCE (FROM LOCAL TO NATIONAL)

SP301: Establishing Community Advisory Groups (CAGs) as catalysts between the public and decision-makers

SP302: Adoption and implementation of action plans for facilitating public participation during planning, approval and implementation of urban development plans and programs

SP303: Inclusion of neighbourhood councils in the budget planning process (participatory budgeting)

SP304: Updating the public participation ordinance for local governments, including written guidelines for various participation options

SP305: Supplementing traditional forms of participation with modern tools, to encourage innovation without isolating or excluding citizens engaged with traditional modes of participation

SP306: Consider adopting the "Citizen's Planning Bill of Rights" to empower community members to participate early in the planning process and protect their right to shape the future of their communities

SP307: Raising citizens' awareness and educating them on their rights and responsibilities concerning the local government and the decision-making process

SP308: Implementation of effective communication strategies to share information, experience and practices among local communities and Including all groups of the society, including various age, sex, ethnic groups in the dialogue with the local government

SP309: Establishment of an urban data-sharing platform to provide open access to the urban data and city development plans and programmes

POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

POLICY INSTRUMENTS

- Infrastructure development (ICT, ...)
- Legal reform and deregulation
- Capacity building
- Information and education
- Inducements

POLICY ACTORS

CORRESPONDING ACTOR:

- MoRUD

INFLUENT ACTOR(S):

- Ministry of Interior
- Municipalities
- City Councils

POLICY EVALUATION

POLICY OUTPUTS:

- Quantity of NGOs associated with the field of urban development

POLICY IMPACTS:

- Level of citizen participation in urban decisions
- Number of citizens' complaints to judicial authorities

SMART CITY CONSIDERATIONS

- The necessity for effective social and institutional participation through smart and digital strategies
- The need for adequate recognition of the societal priorities through smart and transparent methods

TIME SCALE: Long-term

DURATION: 5-10 Years

SCALE: Local/National

LEVEL: Governance/Managerial



PROBLEM

Adverse impact of climate change on urban areas

POLICY GOAL

Climate change mitigation and adaptation

POLICY OBJECTIVES

- 041: Building resilient communities
- 042: Increased public awareness about the climate change and its impact on urban life
- 043: Improved international cooperation to address the environmental problems



NUP4 EMPLOYING EFFECTIVE MEASURES TO FOSTER CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION AND ADAPTATION

- SP401:** Integrating climate change mitigation and adaptation measures into the urban development plans
- SP402:** Encouraging and supporting the development of local plans and strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emission
- SP403:** Making Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) compulsory prior to the approval and implementation of urban development plans
- SP404:** Developing guidelines on multi-hazard assessment of public infrastructure and amenities of cities
- SP405:** Ensuring that urban development laws and regulations, and building codes and standards are consistent with climate change adaptation strategies
- SP406:** Implementing sustainable urban waste management plans through a multi-stakeholder partnership (government, non-government, and private actors)
- SP407:** Promoting compact urban development and urban densification/re-utilization and preventing urban sprawl
- SP408:** Developing climate-responsive urban design guidelines according to the various geo-climatic conditions of Iranian cities (e.g. development of green infrastructure, implementing NBS in public spaces, etc.)
- SP409:** Identifying the local capacities to strengthen the decentralized energy production network and projecting attractive incentives to encourage use of renewable sources of energy in building design
- SP410:** Improving sustainable mobility options by planning for pedestrian and bike routes, in particular in small and middle-sized cities
- SP411:** Strengthening environmental diplomacy and facilitating knowledge transfer from countries that are facing similar conditions as Iran in regards with the impacts of climate change
- SP412:** Knowledge improvement and capacity building among the citizens, in particular the children, for their ecological footprint and its impact on climate change
- SP413:** Decentralizing national level funds and facilitating local governments to utilize technical capacities and resources for climate change adaptation and resilience building in their communities

POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

POLICY INSTRUMENTS

- Legal reform and deregulation
- Infrastructure development
- Capacity building
- Information and education
- Taxes and surcharges
- Contract with NGOs

POLICY ACTORS

CORRESPONDING ACTOR:

- Ministry of Energy

INFLUENT ACTOR(S):

- Department of Environment
- Municipalities
- MoRUD
- Supreme Water Council
- Supreme Environmental Council

POLICY EVALUATION

POLICY OUTPUTS:

- Establishment of municipal waste recycling organizations
- Rate of reduction of private car usage
- Rate of reduction of energy usage

POLICY IMPACTS:

- Level of pollution
- Energy efficiency of the economy
- CO2 emissions by cities

SMART CITY CONSIDERATIONS

- The possibility of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and global warming through smart solutions
- The possibility of better responding to climate changes, and fostering livability and sustainable lifestyle through smart initiatives and innovations

TIME SCALE: Long-term

DURATION: 5-10 Years

SCALE: Local/National

LEVEL: Governance/Managerial



PROBLEM

Access to adequate housing for all

POLICY GOAL

Affordable and adequate housing for all

POLICY OBJECTIVES

- O51: Achieving balanced housing market
- O52: Providing affordable housing for all citizens
- O53: Promoting sustainable housing design and construction



NUP5 REVISION OF HOUSING PLANNING SYSTEM FOR A BALANCED HOUSING MARKET THAT LEADS TO AFFORDABLE AND ADEQUATE HOUSING FOR ALL

- SP501:** Discouraging low-density housing construction at the periphery by adopting a development tax or impact fees that internalize the real cost of sprawl for developers
- SP502:** Reforming the spatial planning system for better utilization of land and housing market that meets the needs of middle and low-income groups
- SP503:** Developing new methods of housing finance such as financing on the supply side (land and building fund and building pre-sale) and financing on the demand side (Primary mortgage market and secondary mortgage market)
- SP504:** Designing fiscal incentives to foster affordable quality housing
- SP505:** Enabling private investment in informal settlements through the potential of community finance
- SP506:** Facilitating the private-sector investments in urban regeneration projects
- SP507:** Strengthening national data systems to identify taxable properties and assess property values
- SP508:** Integrating housing programmes in urban and regional development plans
- SP509:** Providing regulations and guidelines with regard to Iranian-Islamic architectural design and in response to the specific circumstances and characteristics of various regions
- SP510:** Developing and promoting cities' initiatives through exchange of experiences, transfer of know-how and implementation of joint projects
- SP511:** Developing green building standards and introducing the green building certification system to the construction industry

POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

POLICY INSTRUMENTS

- Legal reform and deregulation
- Subsidies or tax incentives
- Loans and financial facilities
- Contract with private sector and NGOs

POLICY ACTORS

CORRESPONDING ACTOR:

- MoRUD

INFLUENT ACTOR(S):

- Ministry of Interior
- Supreme Council of Planning and Architecture

POLICY EVALUATION

POLICY OUTPUTS:

- Growth rate of housing and renting prices
- Affordability ratios
- Rooms per person
- Numbers of homeless people, Number of built housing units

POLICY IMPACTS:

- Level of life expectancy
- Housing Satisfaction

SMART CITY CONSIDERATIONS

- The need for building smart homes to reach a higher quality of life
- The importance of creating an online database and intelligent systems regarding the economic, financial and legal dimensions of housing
- Paying attention to reducing the inequality and digital gap in accessing smart technologies and infrastructure in the urban neighbourhoods

TIME SCALE: Long-term

DURATION: 5-10 Years

SCALE: National

LEVEL: Governance



PROBLEM

Lack of networked or proportional hierarchical system of urban settlements

POLICY GOAL

A spatially balanced network of sustainable cities throughout the country

POLICY OBJECTIVES

- 061: Multi-level balanced network of urban settlements
- 062: Development of a network of high-quality public spaces in cities
- 063: Decentralisation and de-intensification of Tehran and other metropolises



NUP6 SPATIAL PLANNING FOR A BALANCED NETWORK OF SUSTAINABLE CITIES

- SP601:** Improving the cohesion of the spatial structure of the country through a polycentric network of cities
- SP602:** Strengthening the role and functional capacities of middle-sized cities to prevent migration to large and overpopulated centres
- SP603:** Limiting the population and physical growth of mother cities in metropolitan areas of the country
- SP604:** Strengthening and improving the performance of large cities as the partners of metropolises
- SP605:** Defining the urban – carrying capacities according to the environmental conditions
- SP606:** Enhancing the position of the Supreme Council of Urban Planning and Architecture in urban policymaking in regard to the spatial development of the country
- SP607:** Promoting Inclusive approach in public space planning and design
- SP608:** Improving the identity of urban areas according to the specific conditions of each city
- SP609:** Emphasizing the application of infill development and prevention of urban sprawl
- SP610:** Developing land use regulations for the areas outside the urban growth boundary
- SP611:** Promoting coordination between the development of populations and activity centres with public transportation system
- SP612:** Promoting fluid and mixed land use planning in cities
- SP613:** Observing passive defence considerations in planning population and activity centres
- SP614:** Taking into consideration natural and man-made disasters in accommodating population and services
- SP615:** Improving the linkages and interactions between rural-urban areas (Urban-rural linkage)
- SP616:** Strengthening country's linkage to the international transportation networks

POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

POLICY INSTRUMENTS

- Deregulation of actors
- Training of public managers
- Enactment of new rules
- Informal procedures
- Capacity building

POLICY ACTORS

CORRESPONDING ACTOR:

- MoRUD

INFLUENT ACTOR(S):

- Municipalities
- Ministry of Interior
- Planning and Budget Organization

POLICY EVALUATION

POLICY OUTPUTS:

- The number of cities with up-to-date urban plans
- Urban Rank-Size index

POLICY IMPACTS:

- Environmental Performance Index (EPI)
- Level of life expectancy
- Quality of Life index

SMART CITY CONSIDERATIONS

- The need for creating balance in the country's urban system by developing remote smart services
- Possibility of improving environmental quality and urban sustainability through smart developments

TIME SCALE: Long-term

DURATION: 5-10 Years

SCALE: National

LEVEL: Governance



PROBLEM

Urban land management

POLICY GOAL

Effective urban land management system

POLICY OBJECTIVES

- 071: Enabling legal frameworks on sustainable urban land management
- 072: Enabling legal frameworks on land-based financial resources Security of Tenure
- 073: Providing equitable access to suitable land for housing and urban development



NUP07 DEVELOPING AN EFFECTIVE URBAN LAND MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

SP701: Improving the effectiveness of land management system through updating rules, laws, and regulations

SP702: provide access to digital cadastre and land registry through the internet in Iran (Increasing transparency)

SP703: Revising and updating the property rights

SP704: Developing the mortgage finance

SP705: Capacity building and financial provision for effective land administration

SP706: Increasing civic engagement and public participation in land governance through improved access to information

POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

POLICY INSTRUMENTS

- Deregulation of actors
- Direct services
- Provision
- Legal reform and deregulation
- Taxes and surcharges

POLICY ACTORS

CORRESPONDING ACTOR:

- MoRUD

INFLUENT ACTOR(S):

- National Land and Housing Organization
- Land Affairs Organization of Iran
- Municipalities

POLICY EVALUATION

POLICY OUTPUTS:

- The area of exclusive lands at the disposal of government institutions in public spaces
- Annual land usage rate

POLICY IMPACTS:

- Level of land consumption in cities
- Level of urban sprawl
- The number of reported corruption and misconduct in land administration processes
- Increasing the proportionality of housing rates and real settlement rates in cities

SMART CITY CONSIDERATIONS

- The necessity of public access to cadastre via digital and smart services

TIME SCALE: Long-term

DURATION: 5-10 Years

SCALE: Local/ National

LEVEL: Governance/Managerial



PROBLEM

Lack of a comprehensive approach to municipalities' revenue sources

POLICY GOAL

Financial Sustainability of municipalities and local Governments

POLICY OBJECTIVES

- 081: Developing competitive, prosperous and innovative urban economy
- 082: Enabling effective legal and regulatory frameworks for municipalities to sustain their financial revenue sources
- 083: Technical readiness of municipalities to sustain their financial revenue sources



NUP8 IMPROVING THE URBAN ECONOMY AND ENSURING SUSTAINABLE REVENUE SOURCES FOR MUNICIPALITIES

SP801: Updating the rules and regulations regarding the promotion of the role of municipalities in the planning and management of the local economy

SP802: Integration of local economy planning into the urban development planning

SP803: Establishment of national and regional observatories for urban economy monitoring with focus on competitiveness, business ease and urban prosperity

SP804: Approving the law on sustainable revenue sources for municipalities according to the specific circumstances of cities.

SP805: Adaptation and modification of the revenue and expenditure coding system of municipalities in accordance with international standards

SP806: Improving access to external finance including; Legal bottlenecks to borrowing at the city level, achieving creditworthiness, reducing investment risk, municipal bonds versus loans, public-private partnerships, pooled financing and financial intermediaries

SP807: Enabling legal framework to improve ways in which public sector can capture land value gains and other revenues

SP808: Support intermediary financial institutions such as municipal development banks and fund

SP809: Support national governments to incite local governments to fully leverage their existing tax authority by associating transfers and local revenue, and increase transparency through national Government data and reporting requirements

SP810: Designing local financial instruments for urban regeneration projects

SP811: Establishing mechanisms for compensating for government exemptions in the form of annual budgets and other laws of Iran

SP812: Developing legal mechanisms for deducting areas of executive bodies by the management organization and deposit it in the account of the municipalities

SP813: Developing comprehensive financial planning and policy (revenue and expenditure) in municipalities by short-term, medium-term and long-term

SP814: Creating technical and legal readiness in municipalities and upgrading their credit rating in order to connect with transnational financial markets and benefit from foreign investment in the urban development sector

SP815: Designing and establishing a system for calculating and paying electronically and online all municipal tolls and legal funds

POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

POLICY INSTRUMENTS

- Legal reform and deregulation
- Enactment of new rules
- Training of public managers
- Capacity building
- Contract with private sector
- Loans and financial facilities

POLICY ACTORS

CORRESPONDING ACTOR:

- Ministry of Interior

INFLUENT ACTOR(S):

- MoRUD
- Planning and Budget Organization
- Ministry of Economic Affairs and Finance
- Municipalities

POLICY EVALUATION

POLICY OUTPUTS:

- Per capita budget and revenue of metropolitan municipalities
- Own-source revenue of municipalities
- Urban gross production
- Foreign investment in cities

POLICY IMPACTS:

- Urban competitiveness ranking
- Prosperity Index
- Urban productivity indicator
- Urban poverty level

SMART CITY CONSIDERATIONS

- The need for increased transparency in economic decision making through smart development strategies
- The possibility of activating the capacities of the smart knowledge-based urban economy
- The necessity of facilitating businesses through smart innovations and services
- Supporting the development of smart platforms for cities' financial affairs

TIME SCALE: Long-term

DURATION: 5-10 Years

SCALE: Local/ National

LEVEL: Governance/Managerial



PROBLEM

Expanding informal settlements and increasing urban poverty

POLICY GOAL

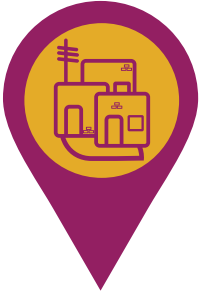
Reduced urban inequalities and empowered informal settlements

POLICY OBJECTIVES

091: Reduced spatial inequality and urban poverty in different parts of the country

092: Preventing further growth of informal settlements

093: Improved life conditions in informal settlements and dysfunctional urban areas



NUP9 PREVENTING THE EXPANSION OF INFORMAL SETTLEMENTS AND UPGRADING THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN VULNERABLE URBAN AREAS

- SP901:** Coordination and coherence among the local and national governance to prevent the expansion of informal settlements
- SP902:** Identifying and categorising informal settlements in various cities and proposing upgrading strategies accordingly
- SP903:** Reducing land acquisition cost and housing price to discourage the growth of informal land and housing market
- SP904:** Reducing discrimination in access to subsidized land and housing
- SP905:** Criminalization of violations of urban planning and unplanned constructions
- SP906:** Revision of the spatial planning system for the better utilization of the land and housing market and to meet the needs of middle and low-income groups.
- SP907:** Undertaking necessary legal reform for clarifying the ownership rights of the dwellers of informal settlements
- SP908:** Improving the living conditions of low-income groups through the provision of basic services and in situ development of informal settlements
- SP909:** Empowering the low-income groups through community development and encouraging their participation in decision-making processes
- SP910:** Providing entrepreneurship development and service centres, women employment opportunities, and workspace for entrepreneurs, microcredit systems for inhabitants of informal settlements

POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

POLICY INSTRUMENTS

- Infrastructure development
- Provision
- Direct services
- Legal reform and deregulation
- Capacity building
- Information and education
- Loans and financial facilities
- Insurances
- Contract with private sector and NGOs

POLICY ACTORS

CORRESPONDING ACTOR:

- MoRUD

INFLUENT ACTOR(S):

- Ministry of Interior
- Planning and Budget Organization
- Municipalities

POLICY EVALUATION

POLICY OUTPUTS:

- Number of inhabitants of informal settlements and poor urban areas
- The share of government subsidies for Low-income groups
- The share of public budget for informal settlement

POLICY IMPACTS:

- Level of residential satisfaction in vulnerable urban areas

SMART CITY CONSIDERATIONS

- The necessity of reducing the digital gap between dysfunctional and privileged urban neighborhoods
- The need to empower the local economy through smart innovations in dysfunctional and informal urban settlements
- The need for improving liveability and quality of life through smart solutions

TIME SCALE: Long-term

DURATION: 5-10 Years

SCALE: Local/National

LEVEL: Governance/Managerial



PROBLEM

No recognition of metropolitan scale in urban planning and management system

POLICY GOAL

Recognition of metropolitan governance system in Iran's urban planning system

POLICY OBJECTIVES

0101. Enabling effective legal frameworks with regard to metropolitan governance

0102. Enabling efficient institutional frameworks with regard to metropolitan governance



NUP10 DEFINING THE METROPOLITAN GOVERNANCE CONCEPT IN IRAN'S URBAN PLANNING SYSTEM

- SP1001.** Providing legal, regulatory and/ or guideline support with regard to metropolitan governance, in particular for Tehran Metropolitan Region (TMR)
- SP1002.** Defining mandates and institutional arrangements of metropolitan governance
- SP1003.** Developing sustainable financial management strategies for metropolitan governance
- SP1004.** Evolution of the existing legal basis for supervising and controlling the development of rural settlements by villages located within metropolitan regions without the intervention of urban management
- SP1005.** Improving the coordination and cooperation among the local actors of metropolitan regions
- SP1006.** Matching managerial and political divisions and resolving territorial disputes in metropolitan regions
- SP1007.** Rearranging the functions of central government and local government in urban and suburban areas
- SP1008.** Revival of the Tehran City Development Supervision Law and expansion of the scope of action of the Supervisory Council to the entire metropolitan area of Tehran
- SP1009.** Preventing the existing policy on the establishment of new municipalities in metropolitan regions and simultaneously pursuing the approach of reducing the number of existing municipalities (reducing the managerial fragmentation

POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

POLICY INSTRUMENTS

- Deregulation of actors
- Training of public managers
- Legal reform and deregulation
- Enactment of new rules

POLICY ACTORS

CORRESPONDING ACTOR:

- Ministry of Interior

INFLUENT ACTOR(S):

- MoRUD
- Municipalities
- Islamic Consultative Assembly

POLICY EVALUATION

POLICY OUTPUTS:

- Frequency of voluntary cooperation agreements between municipalities in metropolitan areas
- Number of NGOs in urban issues

POLICY IMPACTS:

- Productivity and economic growth of metropolitan regions
- Number of public private partnership (PPP) contracts

SMART CITY CONSIDERATIONS

- The need for changing the planning and management system to facilitate the realization of smart developments at the metropolitan level

TIME SCALE: Long-term

DURATION: 5-10 Years

SCALE: National

LEVEL: Governance/Managerial



PROBLEM

Unsustainability of water resource management

POLICY GOAL

Sustainability of water resources

POLICY OBJECTIVES

- 0111:** Establishment of Integrated Urban Water Resources Management system.
- 0112:** Integrating Water-Smart City strategies in urban development programmes and plans.
- 0113:** Increased public awareness about sustainable water consumption.



NUP11 TRANSITION TOWARDS URBAN WATER SUSTAINABILITY THROUGH AN INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT (IWRM) APPROACH

- SP1101:** Considering availability of water as an essential measure to regulate demography and economy across the country, and avoiding the projection of inter-basin water transfer projects
- SP1102:** Directing urban and industrial projects, which require high amount of water, to the coastal strips, and avoiding water transfer projects over long distances and among various internal water basins
- SP1103:** Developing multi-functional and connected green and blue spaces (green areas, urban parks, urban forests, water channels, streams, etc.) inside and around the cities
- SP1104:** Promoting water-wise and water smart techniques in planning and design of public spaces
- SP1105:** Make use of Nature-Based Solutions to manage storm water and surface runoff and to improve the liveability of urban areas
- SP1106:** Integrating Blue-Green infrastructure in urban water management systems of Iranian cities
- SP1107:** Reducing direct water consumption through raising citizens' awareness about their consumption habits
- SP1108:** Developing design regulations and guidelines on promoting the construction of water-efficient buildings, including harvesting and reusing rainwater and reusing greywater use for non-potable purposes

POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

POLICY INSTRUMENTS

- Legal reform and deregulation
- Information and education
- Capacity building
- Loans and financial facilities
- Taxes and surcharges

POLICY ACTORS

CORRESPONDING ACTOR:

- Ministry of Energy

INFLUENT ACTOR(S):

- Department of Environment
- MoRUD
- Supreme Council of Water

POLICY EVALUATION

POLICY OUTPUTS:

- Degree of integrated water resources management implementation (0–100) in the cities of Iran

POLICY IMPACTS:

- The number of Water-stressed cities
- Level of water pollution in metropolitan cities

SMART CITY CONSIDERATIONS

- The need for establishing intelligent and integrated water monitoring and management systems
- The need for applying water-wise and water-smart technologies

TIME SCALE: Long-term

DURATION: 5-10 Years

SCALE: National

LEVEL: Governance / Managerial



PROBLEM

Continuation of business-as-usual in new town development within the last 40 years

POLICY GOAL

Sustainable new towns

POLICY OBJECTIVES

- 0121: Defined role of new towns in the Iranian cities' network
- 0122: Improvement of liveability, identity and sense of community in new towns



NUP12 RETHINKING THE ROLE OF NEW TOWNS TO PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE AND SMART DEVELOPMENT

- SP1201:** Giving the priority to organizing and upgrading the existing new towns, rather than developing a new generation of new towns
- SP1202:** changing the “business as usual” approach in planning new towns and emphasizing on their role in the system of Iranian cities
- SP1203:** Employing new and innovative methodologies in locating, planning and design of new towns
- SP1204:** Planning to promote identity and culture in new towns in order to achieve an inclusive city and improve the sense of community among the inhabitants
- SP1205:** Paying attention to liveability and environmental quality of new towns
- SP1206:** Planning for sustainable transportation systems and promoting green mobility (walking and biking) in new towns
- SP1207:** Paying attention to environmental safety and crisis management against natural and man-made disasters
- SP1208:** Developing a system to monitored and evaluate the urban conditions during and after the implementation
- SP1209:** Strengthening the economic diversification of new towns

POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

POLICY INSTRUMENTS

- Infrastructure development (ICT, ...)
- Capacity building
- Legal reform and deregulation
- Loans and financial facilities

POLICY ACTORS

CORRESPONDING ACTOR:

- MoRUD

INFLUENT ACTOR(S):

- Ministry of Interior
- Municipalities
- Iran New Towns Development Company

POLICY EVALUATION

POLICY OUTPUTS:

- Number of constructed houses in new towns
- The share of new town's population in the country

POLICY IMPACTS:

- Urban gross production
- Level of residential satisfaction in new towns
- Quality of life in new towns

SMART CITY CONSIDERATIONS

- Using the capacity of smart city strategies in reviewing the role and status of Iran's new cities (e.g. using abandoned urban spaces and infrastructures; responding to existing problems and challenges; relying smart innovations as drivers of development, etc.)

TIME SCALE: Long-term

DURATION: 5-10 Years

SCALE: National

LEVEL: Governance/Managerial



PROBLEM

The necessity to improve the health of citizens

POLICY GOAL

Improved health of the Iranian population

POLICY OBJECTIVES

0131: Building healthy cities and communities

0132: Building capacity through research and evaluation of health inequalities in human settlements



NUP13 IMPROVING THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF ALL CITIZENS

SP1301: Integrating community health programmes in urban development plans

SP1302: Providing public spaces to create opportunities for gathering and socializing to reduce psychological distress and depression

SP1303: Promoting healthy lifestyle by improving the pedestrian- and bike-friendly urban environments

SP1304: Providing opportunities for recreational walking and physical activities in neighbourhoods, with special attention to children and elderly

SP1305: Improving walking, biking, and public transportation access and connections to neighbourhood parks and playgrounds

SP1306: Engaging local communities in the planning, creation, and maintenance of parks to encourage their regular use of the green space

SP1307: Increasing the green space per capita in Iranian cities in line with the international standards

SP1308: Integrating the concept of play streets in urban regeneration projects to provide children play areas in vulnerable communities

SP1309: Encouraging greater use of trees, landscaping, and engaging natural features in urban regeneration projects

SP1310: Improving access to public sport facilities and health-hubs in cities

SP1311: Building capacity among the community members, especially those with health disparities and other disadvantages, through programmes that build skills and connections such as trainings and volunteer programs

SP1312: Raising public awareness about the healthy community through strategies like clean-up days, special events, interactive games, etc.

SP1313: Preventing the use of hazardous materials in building industry

SP1314: Preparing the air quality action plan for metropolitan areas

POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

POLICY INSTRUMENTS

- Insurances
- Infrastructure development
- Provision
- Legal reform and deregulation
- Capacity building
- Information and education
- Direct services

POLICY ACTORS

CORRESPONDING ACTOR:

- MoRUD

INFLUENT ACTOR(S):

- Municipalities
- Ministry of Interior

POLICY EVALUATION

POLICY OUTPUTS:

- The average number of days with healthy air in the country's metropolises

POLICY IMPACTS:

- Level of residential satisfaction with Health Service
- Level of annual deaths due to air pollution

SMART CITY CONSIDERATIONS

- Using smart technologies in promoting green and active transportation
- Facilitating the use of smart health-related databases and platforms in urban decision-making and policy making
- The possibility of optimal management of public health and the consequences of infectious diseases through smart strategies

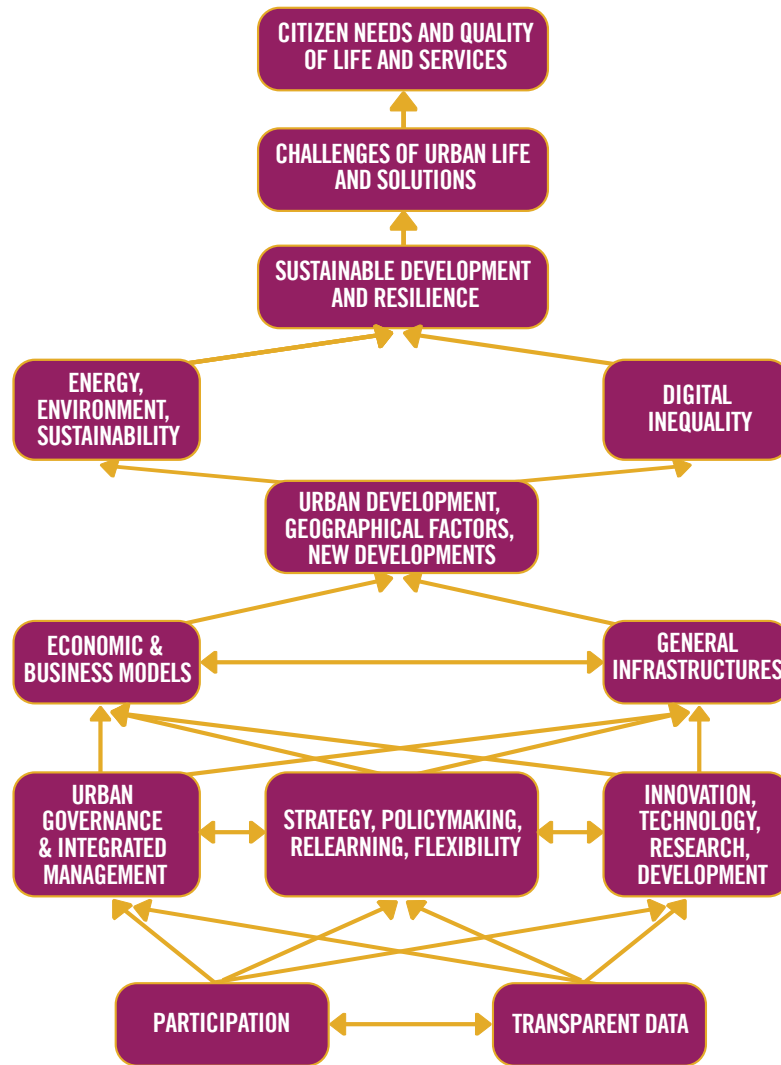
TIME SCALE: Long-term

DURATION: 5-10 Years

SCALE: Local/National

LEVEL: Governance/Managerial

SMART CITY DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIC MODEL FOR I. R. IRAN



POLICY SUGGESTIONS FOR THE SMART CITY DEVELOPMENT

Participation: Establish communication between the institutions, professionals and the public

Data & Transparency: More equipment and scope in creating data and statistical transparency and various rules and executive measures

Urban Governance & Management: Specialization and use of new technologies; cross-sectoral cooperation in use of advanced technologies

Strategy, Policy-making & Flexibility: Awareness of the latest technical and professional achievements

Innovation, Technology, Research & Development: Further expansion and efficiency of research centers with the use of new smart technologies

Economy & Investment: Paying attention to urban awareness programs and paving the way for the use of advanced economic models & moderation

General Infrastructure: Equipping cities with advanced and creative public infrastructure in line with capacity and foresight

Geography, Urbanism & New Developments: Establishment of technical and engineering equipment, wide smart management domains, and smart urban planning

Energy & Environment: Preservation of the environment in accordance with the sustainable development principles and goals

Digital Gap: Balancing access to services for different population groups and different social and economic sectors

Urbanisation Challenges: Access to statistics and information; awareness of the latest natural, social and economic changes

Sustainable & Resilient Development: Create a certain level of knowledge and skills; increase the speed of responding to the problems